

IN THE CLAIMS

1-9. Canceled.

10. (Original) A computer system comprising:

a protected storage device including a first password stored therein;

a hard drive to receive the first password from the protected storage device and, in response, to unlock the drive;

a voltage supply; and

a power manager to cause the voltage supply to reduce a voltage to the drive, thereby locking the drive, the power manager to subsequently cause the voltage supply to increase the voltage to the drive, the drive remaining locked until the first password is received.

11. (Original) The computer system of claim 10, wherein the protected storage device is soldered to a circuit board of the system.

12. (Original) The computer system of claim 10, wherein the protected storage device is part of a chipset of the system.

13. (Original) The computer system of claim 10, further comprising a set of instructions to authenticate a user of the computer system and to transfer the first password from the protected storage device to the drive if the user is authenticated.

14. (Original) The computer system of claim 13, wherein the user is located remotely from the computer system.
15. (Original) The computer system of claim 14, wherein the instructions are to authenticate the user by a method including verifying a second password.
16. (Original) A method comprising:
 - enabling a user to be authenticated to a computer system using a first method of authentication; and
 - enabling the first password to be transferred from a protected storage device to a hard drive of the computer system, if the user is authenticated, to unlock the drive.
17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising enabling an operating system stored on the drive to be loaded after the drive is unlocked.
18. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising enabling a power manager to relock the drive by causing a voltage supplied to the drive to be reduced.
19. (Original) A computer system programmed to implement the method of claim 16.
20. (Original) A machine-readable medium including machine-readable instructions that, if executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform the method of claim 16.

21. (Original) The medium of claim 20, further comprising machine-readable instructions that, if executed by the machine, cause the machine to further load an operating system stored on the drive after the drive is unlocked.